

Georgia State Board of Funeral Service  
Minutes  
March 14, 2006

Minutes Approved at the April 11, 2006 Meeting

The Georgia State Board of Funeral Service held its regular meeting on March 14, 2006 at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia. Michael Fowler, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members present were: Michael Fowler, Chairman, David Roach, Vice Chairman, Thelon Hamby, Cognizant, Draper Watson, Lauren McDonald, and Terry Daviston.

Others present were: Steve Lindsey, Executive Director, Jo Ann Lyde, Application Specialist, Valencier Brown, Board Secretary, Reagan Dean, Assistant Attorney General, John Massey, Inspector, and Howard Fields, Inspector.

Mr. Watson moved to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2006 minutes. Mr. Roach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson moved to accept today's March 14, 2006 agenda. Mr. Roach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Watson moved to enter into Executive Session to deliberate on applications, correspondence, investigations and complaints. Mr. Roach seconded the motion. Motion carried by Mr. Fowler and Mr. Roach.

**Applications**

JoAnn Lyde, Application Specialist, presented applications to the Board.

**Attorney General Report**

The Attorney General Report was presented to the Board by Assistant Attorney General, Reagan Dean.

**Complaints**

Mr. Hamby, Cognizant Member, presented complaints to the Board.

**Inspector Report**

Inspectors John Massey and Howard Fields presented the Inspector Report to the Board.

**Open Session**

Mr. Fowler declared open session.

### **90 Day Request**

Mr. Roach motioned to approve the request of Winkenhofer Pine Ridge Funeral Home in Kennesaw, GA, to utilize Winkenhofer Chapel in Marietta while undergoing renovations. This establishment is to provide the Board with an update of its progress every 90 days. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

### **Appeals**

Mr. Hamby motioned to uphold the Board's previous decision to deny Michael Johnson's application for funeral director and embalmer license. Mr. Daviston seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby further motioned to deny Michael Johnson's request for a refund for his Funeral Director and Embalmer application fee. Mr. Daviston seconded. Motion carried.

Coretta Frazier, Apprentice applicant, did not appear for her scheduled appointment.

Mr. Hamby motioned to uphold the Board's previous decision to deny Lyndal Wolf's application for embalmer and funeral director license by Reciprocity of Indiana. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Roach motioned to uphold the Board's previous decision to deny John T. Gallatin's application for embalmer and funeral director license by Reciprocity of Michigan. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Roach motioned to table Elrico Harris's application for funeral director license by Reciprocity of North Carolina until he successfully completes the Funeral Director portion of the National Board Exam. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Roach motioned to uphold the Board's previous decision to deny Brian Todack's application by Reciprocity of Florida and advised him to apply for apprenticeship. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to table Jimmy Sasser's application by Reciprocity from Florida until the April 11, 2006 meeting. Mr. Sasser is to provide the Board with Florida's requirements during the time he received his Florida license. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

### **Approval of Supervisor for Apprentice**

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve J.T. Borders as the Trade Embalmer Supervisor for Obinna Ogogbua. The Board advised Mr. Borders that his duties as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge are primary duties and not to be neglected. Mr. Daviston seconded. Motion carried.

### **Funeral Director in Full Continuous Charge**

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve James Meadows as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of SouthCare Funeral Home in Marietta, GA. He also advised Chris Nuzum to update the ownership information with the Board Office. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson motioned to approve Michelle Willis as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of RT Patterson Funeral Home & Cremation Services in Norcross, GA. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to rescind the Order of Summary Suspension on RT Patterson Funeral Home & Cremation Services docketed March 13, 2006. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Benjamin McLane as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of Lowndes & McLane Funeral Home in Tucker, GA. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Carolyn Dopson Horton as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of Smart and Son Funeral Home in Savannah, GA. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Daniell Dickens as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of Baker Funeral Home in Moultrie, GA. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson motioned to approve Cindy Purvis Vaughn as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of Vaughn Funeral Home in McRae, GA and advised Mrs. Vaughn to send letter advising that RL Dixon is no longer an owner/officer of the corporation and that John and Cindy Vaughn are sole owners. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned that the Board Office send a letter to Therman Walker, owner of Shepard Funeral Home, that he must notify the Board in writing that his establishment is currently closed. Mr. Walker currently does not have a Board-approved Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve the name change of Rose Manor Funeral Directors in Rome, GA to Maurice Myles and Son Funeral Home. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve BeLinda Glass as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of Maurice Myles and Son Funeral Home in Rome, GA. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Thomas Davis as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of J.C. Harwell and Son Funeral Home in Covington, GA. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Sherri Roberts as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of Scott and Roberts Mortuary, Inc. in Valdosta, GA. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Traci Filson as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of DeLoach-Kennedy Funeral Home in Hephzibah, GA. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

The Board advised Sandra Trice, Owner of Hamm's & Trice Funeral Home in Barnesville, GA that her establishment must be inspected prior to the Board approving Irvin Trice as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge. Until the inspection has occurred successfully, the Board cannot consider him as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Theron Wilson as Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge of Mackey-Wilson-Jennings Funeral Home in LaGrange, GA. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to rescind the Order of Summary Suspension on Mackey-Wilson-Jennings Funeral Home in LaGrange, GA that was docketed on March 13, 2006. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

### **Complaints**

#### **FUN060115**

This case was previously closed by the Board, but, in light of additional information received, Mr. Hamby recommended sending the inspector to the establishment to confer with the Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge regarding advertisement of the general price list.

#### **FUN060122**

Mr. Hamby recommended that this case be sent to Investigations and have them contact complainant to get deceased's name and date of death.

#### **FUN060128**

Additional information received on this case, which is already under investigation. Mr. Hamby recommended that this information be added to the file and to table the case pending completion of the investigation.

#### **FUN060129**

Mr. Hamby recommended Inspectors get additional information and report back to the Board.

**FUN060133**

Mr. Hamby recommend having the Inspector contact coroner and get statement as to why the death certificate has not been filed.

**FUN060134**

Mr. Hamby recommended closing this case. This case is a civil matter.

**FUN060136**

Mr. Hamby recommended having the Inspector look over this case and visit the funeral establishment.

**FUN060137**

Mr. Hamby recommended closing this case. This case is a civil matter.

**FUN060138**

Mr. Hamby recommended closing this case.

**FUN060139**

Mr. Hamby recommended having the Inspector get a statement from the funeral director and verify the gravestone has been put back in place.

**FUN060140**

Mr. Hamby recommended sending this case to investigations to get statement from the Coroner as to how the body was referred, obtain a copy of the death certificate, any funeral files regarding this case, funeral contract, general price list, etc.

**FUN060141**

Mr. Hamby recommended the Inspector contact the funeral home and get statements as to the status of cremated remains and report back to the Board.

Mr. Watson motioned to accept the Cognizant recommendations on these cases as presented. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

**Applications**

Mr. Hamby motioned to accept the decisions on applications made in Executive Session as presented. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried. Approved applications are as follows:

**License No.**

FSA004604  
FSA004605  
FSA004607  
FSA004608  
FSA004609  
FSA004610  
FSA004611  
FSA004612  
FSA004613  
FSA004614  
FSA004615  
FSA004616  
FSA004617  
FSA004618  
FSA004619

**Apprentice Name**

Elbert Clifton Rheames  
Terrence Rhashad Dortch  
Nicholas Pierre Stovall  
James Vincent Luckett  
Mark Steven Glover  
James Ricky Wiggins  
William Clinton Kent  
Kimberly Dianne Dixon  
Ashley Nicole McGhee  
Ross Alan Rainwater  
Thomas Patrick Shergold  
Chelsea Leone Ahonen  
Stephen Anthony Dowd, II  
Billy Joe Anglon  
Gwendolyn Webb Ellison

**License No.**

FD004865  
FD004866  
FD004867  
FD004868

**Funeral Director Name**

Sandra Lemon Mincey  
Troy L. Lawton  
Ephriam Dewayne Stephens  
Phoebe Dawson-Ussery

**License No.**

EMB004454  
EMB004455  
EMB004456  
EMB004457

**Embalmer Name**

Sandra Lemon Mincey  
Troy L. Lawton  
Ephriam Dewayne Stephens  
Phoebe Dawson-Ussery

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Michael Paul Howington's request to change his supervising embalmer. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. McDonald motioned to table G B's apprenticeship application until the next Board meeting and requested a certified court disposition and her appearance at the next meeting. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to grant Kendall Blankumsee credit for his apprenticeship hours. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to deny Donavin Boyd's request for a refund for his embalmer and funeral director applications for Reciprocity from Louisiana. Mr. Boyd withdrew his application. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Daviston motioned to deny William House's application for reinstatement for funeral director and embalmer license. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson motioned to deny Catherine Whitwell's embalmer and funeral director application for reciprocity from Texas. Mr. Daviston seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Lynn Gardner's change of supervising embalmer and funeral director. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Amanda Ray Henderson's change of apprenticeship site and supervisors. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve James Brent Durbin's embalmer and funeral director application for reciprocity from Alabama. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Michael William Long's change of apprenticeship site and supervisors. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Daviston motioned to deny Richard Kelly Baxter's application for reinstatement of funeral director and embalmer license. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to deny Robert Franklin's application for funeral director and embalmer license. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Wanda Corry Jennings' change in supervising funeral director. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve Javier Perez's change in apprenticeship site and supervisors. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Hamby motioned to deny Tyran Carter's application for funeral director and embalmer. Mr. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Daviston motioned to table J M's application for apprenticeship until the Board receives further proof of accredited high school diploma. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

### **Attorney General Report**

Mr. Hamby motioned to accept the Attorney General Report. Mr. Daviston seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson motioned to approve release of sworn statements requested by attorney for DeLoach-Kennedy Funeral Home. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

### **Inspector's Report**

**FUN060123**

Mr. Hamby motioned to remove the Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge and give the funeral home 90 days to obtain a new Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Fields reported on three funeral homes with multiple violations, absent Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge. Mr. Daviston motioned that the Board Office send a letter to each Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge detailing violations and give 30 days to correct violations and pay unpaid fines. Each Funeral Director in Full and Continuous Charge must appear before the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Massey reported on showroom problems concerning use of various rooms/buildings to display caskets, while displays are in a showroom.

A discussion was held regarding amending the rule on display rooms, specifically being accessible to the public. The Board will consider amendments. Mr. Fowler appointed Mr. Hamby and Mr. Daviston to study the rule for amendment to define display room and address provisions for habitual violations.

### **Continuing Education**

Mr. Hamby motioned to approve the recommendations made in Executive Session on the following Continuing Education courses. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

<b>National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA)</b>	Audio CDs-CD ROMS	
	Diversity	2 hours
	FTC Compliance: 2006 Update for Funeral Home Owners & Staff	2 hours
	Embalming/Legal	2 hours
	Preneed	2 hours
	Personal Service	2 hours
	Cremation	2 hours
	OSHA	2 hours
<b>ICFA</b>	2006 Annual Convention & Exposition	40 hours
	Advance Seminar in Quality Funeral Care	14 hours
<b>National Funeral Directors &amp; Morticians Association</b>	Embalming Techniques	2 hours
	Presidential Roundtable	2 hours
	Identification, Inspection & Documentation	2 hours
	Cremation and the Funeral Directors	2 hours
<b>Selected Independent Funeral Homes</b>	2006 Group Meeting Series	8.75 hours
<b>The Dodge Institute for Advanced Mortuary Studies</b>	2006 Dodge Seminars	22 hours
<b>Elite</b>	Religion and the Funeral Director	3 hours
	HIV/AIDS	3 hours
	Professional Ethics	2 hours
	FTC Rules	2 hours
<b>Academy of Graduate Embalmers of Georgia</b>	AGEG 2006 Clinic	10 hours
<b>ICFSEB Accreditation Boards</b>	Association of Executives of Funeral Service Boards	2.25 hours



	Meeting	
	Presentation/Lecture	2 hours
	District Meetings	2 hours
	Presentation/Lecture	1 hour
	Panel Discussion & Open Microphone	1 hour
	Presentation/Lecture	.75 hour

Mr. Hamby motioned to deny Continuing Education course for Alderwoods Group, Alderwoods Room. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Roach motioned to deny Continuing Education course for National Funeral Directors & Morticians Association, How to Get Customers to Pay. Mr. Watson seconded. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

Mr. Daviston motioned to establish a policy requiring all applications to be in the Board Office by the first day of the month prior to a board meeting in order to be considered by the Board. Mr. Roach seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Roach motioned to establish a policy requiring all applications for Continuing Education to be in the Board Office 30 days prior to the next board meeting for consideration by the Board. Mr. Daviston seconded. Motion carried.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Roach motioned to suspend the funeral director and embalmer licenses of Martin Taylor, FD004797 and EMB004386, for defaulting on Licensee's student loan, and further moved that this suspension shall cease upon receipt by the Division Director of a "Notice of Release" from the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Roach motioned to suspend the funeral service apprentice license of Kenneth O. Sanders, FSA004586, for defaulting on Licensee's student loan, and further moved that this suspension shall cease upon receipt by the Division Director of a "Notice of Release" from the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation. Mr. Hamby seconded. Motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.